November 13, 1996
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Secretary, FCC
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554:

Reference: Docket Number 87-268

PURPOSE: Preserve channels 60 to 69 for television stations.

My name is Vern Corkins, Self employed Engineer operating under the name of C & C Communications, 17905 NW Shady Acres Road, Ephrata, WA. (509) 754-2228. I have been involved in providing television signals since the late 1950's to rural areas of Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho and Western Montana with television signals, which otherwise would not be received . My work includes planning, engineering , frequency searches, channel selection, licensing, building and maintaining television translator sites. I worked with the FCC getting UHF translator channels moved form the 70 through 83 to lower channels and know very well the problems involved in loss of frequency spectrum. With the up-coming DTV, there simply is no place for the 60 to 69 channels to go.

The proposed sell off of channels 60 to 69 for land mobile radio would be devastating and not in the interest of rural America, specifically in the Northwest. Let me site just two examples the domino affect (one translator using another translator as it's input signal) from two translator sites in the Central part of the State of Washington.

Spokane, WA. stations KREM channel 2, KXLY channel 4, KHQ channel 6, KSPS channel 7 and KAYU channel 28 all broadcast free over the air television to rural America which otherwise would not receive local newscasts. (Satellite reception with no local broadcast is available for those who can afford it).

The first example I will be using is the Mission Ridge Translator which receives signals from Spokane and then rebroadcasts these signals to many communities. Although this is not a complete list, I believe enough to make my point very clear. In this example, I have chosen to describe only translator stations which are affected by the loss of channels 60 to 69. The following is a list of television broadcast stations and translators re broadcasting their signals.

□ Name	Primary Channel	input to output channels	call sign	latitude longitude
Misson Ridge Translator	CH 4, KXLY Spokane, WA	4 → 63	K63AO	47 16 27 120 24 18
Mission Ridge Translator	CH 6, KHQ Spokane, WA	6 → 65	K65AU	47 16 27 120 24 18
Mission Ridge Translator	CH 7, KSPS Spokane, WA	7 → 67	K67CD	47 16 27 120 24 18
Mission Ridge Translator	CH 28, KAYU Spokane, WA	28 → 69	K69BF	47 16 27 120 24 18
Keystone Mountain Translator		6 → 65 → 13	K13BI	47 38 10 120 16 00
Keystone Mountain Translator		4 → 63 → 11	K11BI	47 38 10 120 16 00
Orondo Translator		4 → 63 → 11 → 8	K08BA	47 40 00 120 10 12
Orondo Translator		6 → 65 → 13 → 10	K10BA	47 40 00 120 10 12
Chelan Butte Translator		4 → 63 → 11 → 3	K03DI	47 47 00 120 7 18
Chelan Butte Translator		6 → 65 → 13 → 7	K07JO	47 47 00 120 7 18
Ardenvoir Translator		4 → 63 → 11 → 8	K08AX	47 44 26 120 22 05
Ardenvoir Translator		6 → 65 → 13 → 10	K10BB	47 44 26 120 22 05
Blagg Mountain Translator		4 → 63 → 10	K10LG	47 36 00 120 30 29
Blagg Mountain Translator		6 → 65 → 12	K12LV	47 36 00 120 30 29
Winton-Merrit Translator		6 → 65 → 3	K03EC	47 47 00 120 48 00
Winton-Merrit Translator		4 → 63 → 5	K05FN	47 47 00 120 48 00
Leavenworth Translator		6 → 65 → 3	K03DU	47 36 59 120 40 37
Leavenworth Translator		4 → 63 → 5	K05FF	47 36 59 120 40 37
Leavenworth Translator		7 → 67 → 13	K13SQ	47 36 59 120 40 37
Quincy Translator		6 → 65 → 48	K48BY	47 19 14 119 48 00

The previous chart is a sampling of television translators covering many thousands of homes in Eastern Washington, East of the Cascade Mountains. Elimination of Channels 60 to 69 would destroy a network of re broadcasts as indicated in column 3.

The second example is the translator site known as Wahatis Peak, located just South of Royal City, WA rebroadcasting on channels 52,55,58,64,68, with channel 52 used as a feed for channel 60 near Ephrata, WA. It is estimated that these translators serve 10,000 families. There are no known channels at this time which channels 60, 64 and 68 could be relocated. If the FCC elects to assign channels 60 to 69 to other resources, these 10,000 people would not have local Television information. Channel 60, 64 and 68 would go dark!

THERE IS NO WHERE CHANNELS 60, 63, 64, 65, 67, 68 AND 69 CAN GO, THEREFORE IF THE FCC TAKES AWAY THESE CHANNELS, ALL OF THE ABOVE WILL GO DARK.

THE FCC TOOK AWAY CHANNELS 70 THROUGH 83 AND THE TRANSLATORS SURVIVED. THEY CANNOT SURVIVE ANOTHER CUT IN FREQUENCIES.

RURAL AMERICA NEEDS LOCAL NEWS REPORTS FOR EMERGENCY BROADCASTS, CONTROLLING THEIR FARM PRODUCTS ETC.

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